## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 H-01 ITC-01 AID-05 NSC-05 SS-15 CEA-01 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /088 W

-----141612Z 072619 /45

O P 141508Z APR 77 FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2745 INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRD, RO

SUBJ: TEXTILE AGREEMENT AND SUITS REF: (A) STATE 83603, (B) BUCHAREST 2587

- 1. SUBJECT OF BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT AND US EMBARGO OF ABOUT 15,800 ROMANIAN SUITS DOMINATED LENGTHY APRIL 13 MEETING BETWEEN DPM PATAN AND AMBASSADOR.
- 2. PATAN BEGAN BY REFERRING TO WHAT HE CALLED GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT REACHED BY US AND ROMANIAN NEGOTIATORS TO ALLOW ALL SUITS SHIPPED IN 1976 BY ROMANIA TO US TO BE IMPORTED WITHOUT ANY PROBLEM.
  PATAN AND THE AMBASSADOR THEN REVIEWED EACH SIDES' RESPECTIVE POSITIONS REGARDING TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS AND GOR'S PROPOSALS ON EMBARGOED SUITES (NOTE: REFTEL A RECEIVED SUBSEQUENT THIS MEETING). AMBASSADOR ALSO NOTED THAT GIVEN SENSITIVE SITUATION IN US IT MIGHT BE MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO ROMANIA IF GORE CONCLUDED COMPREHENSIVE CLUSTER TYPE TEXTILE AGREEMENT NOW RATHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAN DO PIECEMEAL AGREEMENTS.

- 3. PATAN MADE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC POINTS TO AMBASSADOR:
- A) MAJOR WORRY IS OBTAINING RELEASE FROM CUSTOMS OF EMBARGOED SUITS;
- B) GOR DESIRE IS THAT BILATERAL TDXTILE AGREEMENT BE CONCLUDED AT NEXT WEEK'S MEETING IN GENEVA BUT

WOULD PROPOSE TO LIMIT IT ONLY TO GIVE SENSITIVE CATEGORIES;

C) GOR UNHAPPY WITH LOW LEVEL OF US PROPOSED OVERAGE

QUOTA (NOTE: PATAN WAS UNDER ASSUMPTION THAT 35 MILLION SQ. YDS. LIMIT PROPOSED BY US TEXTILE NEGOTIATORS IN BUCHAREST WAS RIGID AND NOT SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATORS IN AMBASSADOR AND ECON COUNSELOR CORRECTED THIS MISINTER-PRETATION. PATAN THEN SUMMONED CHIOVEANU TO MEETING AND LATTER CORROBORATED OUR STATEMENT).

D) NEGOTIATIONS FOR COTTON AGREEMENT RENEWAL SHOULD TAKE PLACE SOMETIME DURING SECOND SEMESTER 1977;

GOR SATISFIED COTTON AGREEMENT HAS WORKED WELL.

- 4 AMBASSADOR URGED PATAN TO RETHINK QUESTION OF UTILITY OF COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT IN LIGHT OF CLARIFICATION OF OVERALL QUOTA FACTOR.
- 5. ON APRIL 14, COMATT MET WITH FOTA (PATAN SPECIAL

ASSISTANT) WHO PASSED ON MESSAGE FROM PATAN TO AMBASSADOR TO EFFECT THAT MANDATE DUMITRESCU BEING PROVIDED

FOR DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA WAS AMENDED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT ON US PROPOSAL FOR CLUSTERS AGREEMENT (SEE PARA 2 AND 3 ABOVE). AT SAME TIME, COMATT GAVE FOTA (CHIOVEANU AND ACHIM ALSO PRESENT) CONTENTS REFTEL A. FOTA REACTED BY SAYING MFT STILL HAS NOT HEARD ANYTHING ON IONITA'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TWO APRIL 12 MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON FROM THEIR EMBASSY AND THUS THEY WERE UNAWARE OF US REJECTION ROMANIAN PROPOSAL MADE APRUA 7 BY BESTELIU AND SUBSEQUENT US COUNTERPROPSAL.

6. COMMENT: GOR OBVIOUSLY ANXIOUS HAVE SUIT EMBARGO LIFTED. WHEN COMATT ASKED FOTA TO SEE IF PATAN AGREEABLE TO NEW INTERIM US PROPOSAL, FOTA REPLIED THAT DECISION NOT SOLELY IN PATAN'S HANDS BUT IS ABOVE HIM. WHILE THE NEED FOR HIGHER LEVEL THAN PATAN APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR GOR RESPONSE TO NEW US INTERIM PROPOSAL MAY PRESENT SOME TIME PROBLEMS, WE FEEL, GIVEN GOR ANXIETY IN REMOVING SUITS FROM EMBARGO, THAT GOR HAS NO RECOURSE BUT TO ACCEPT LATEST US INTERIM AGREEMENT OFFER. ONE OTHER TIMING COMPLICATION, HOWEVER, IS THAT MFT OFFICIALS DO NOT YET HAVE IN HAND TEXT OF US PROPOSAL. REGARDING A LONGER TERM AGREEMENT, MFT NOW APPEARS EAGER TO CONCLUDE ONE IN GENEVA. THEREFORE IT SEEMS THAT TIMING IS NOW RIGHT FOR CONCLUSION OF TEXTILE

AGREEMENT WHICH MAY BE LESS FAVORABLE TO GOR THAN IT OTERWISE WOULD HAVE ACCEPTED, A SITUATION WHICH GOR OFFICIALS WELL AWARE OF AND WITH WHICH THEY QUITE UNCOMFORTABLE.
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## Message Attributes

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